



BOWIE POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 25, 2019

Samuel Sinyangwe

2019-PIA-008

By email sent September 14, 2019, you have requested copies of documentation and correspondences from the City of Bowie pursuant to the Maryland Public Information Act (hereinafter, "PIA"), Md. Ann. Code, Gen. Provs. Art., §4-101 *et seq.* Specifically:

1. All information reported to the Maryland Police Standards and Training Commission regarding Serious Police Officer Involved Incidents and Officers Disciplined as required by Public Safety Article 3-207(b) (1) in 2017 and 2018.
2. All traffic stop data reported pursuant to Maryland Transportation Article 25-113 for stops made in 2017 and 2018.
3. The total number of civilian complaints reported in 2016, 2017, and 2018 (separated by year).
4. The total number of civilian complaints sustained in 2016, 2017, and 2018 (separated by year).
5. The total number of uses of force reported in 2016, 2017, and 2018, separated by type of force used for each year (separated by year).

The City has checked its files and has the above listed information that is responsive to your request. The information is attached to this document and being sent electronically.

You are advised that you have certain remedies under the PIA to contest the City's determination to withhold any requested documents. Specifically, if you believe that the City's determination to withhold the documents in question is not authorized by the PIA, you may seek judicial review of this determination pursuant to § 10-623 of the PIA, by filing an appropriate action in the Prince George's County Circuit Court. If a court of competent jurisdiction finds that the City has wrongfully withheld a document, it may enjoin the City from continuing to withhold it. The court may also award actual damages if it finds by clear and convincing evidence that any defendant knowingly and willfully failed disclose or provide a copy of a public record that the complainant was entitled to inspect. If the court determines that the complainant has substantially prevailed, the court may assess against a defendant governmental unit reasonable counsel fees and other litigation costs that the complainant reasonably incurred.

In addition, the Act provides a mechanism for challenging a fee assessed by a governmental body. The PIA Compliance Board is an independent State entity that hears and decides complaints involving allegations that a government custodian has imposed an unreasonable fee of more than \$350

15901 Excalibur Road · Bowie, Maryland 20716
240-544-5700 Non-Emergency Response & Administrative Offices
240-544-5794 Fax
www.cityofbowie.org

under the PIA. The Board cannot decide other issues that may arise between a requester and a custodian of records under the PIA.

The Public Access Ombudsman mediates disputes under the Public Information Act. The Ombudsman's duties focus on attempting to resolve disputes between a requester and a records custodian about a pending request for public information.

Respectfully,

Captain Richard Wohkittel
Bowie Police Department
15901 Excalibur Road
Bowie, MD 20716
240-544-5781
rwohkittel@cityofbowie.org

15901 Excalibur Road · Bowie, Maryland 20716
240-544-5700 Non-Emergency Response & Administrative Offices
240-544-5794 Fax
www.cityofbowie.org